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Agenda item 173

# Observer status for the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States in the General Assembly

## Report of the Sixth Committee

*Rapporteur*: Mr. Mahmoud M. **Al-Naman** (Saudi Arabia)

## I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Observer status for the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States in the General Assembly" was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly at the request of the Sudan.

2. At its 3rd meeting, on 19 September 2001, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the Sixth Committee.

3. The Sixth Committee considered the item at its 8th to 10th meetings, on 12, 19 and 26 October 2001. The views of the representatives who spoke during the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.6/56/SR.8-10).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it a letter dated 24 July 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/56/191).

## II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.6/56/L.3

5. At the 8th meeting, on 12 October, the representative of the Sudan, on behalf of Burkina Faso, the Central African Republic, Chad, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, the Gambia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Morocco, the Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, the Sudan and Tunisia, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Observer status for the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States in the General Assembly" (A/C.6/56/L.3).

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6. At its 10th meeting, on 26 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.6/56/L.3 without a vote (see para. 7).

## III. Recommendation of the Sixth Committee

7. The Sixth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

### Observer status for the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States in the General Assembly

*The General Assembly*,

*Considering* the importance of the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States, an intergovernmental organization that addresses the common interests of its members and takes account of the diverse links that unite their peoples, and given the determination of the organization to confront the factors that have caused economic backwardness and instability in its member States, its conviction that joint action in a framework of complementarity is the best way to integrate its countries and peoples, its commitment to the maintenance of international peace and security in the Sahelo-Saharan region and its determination to satisfy the wish for economic, cultural, political and social integration in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Charter of the Organization of African Unity, the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the 1991 Treaty establishing the African Economic Community (the Abuja Treaty) and the constitutive documents of the regional organizations to which its member States belong,

*Considering also* the need, frequently noted by the United Nations, to promote and support every effort towards the development of bilateral and multilateral cooperation on the basis of international law,

*Noting* that the Treaty establishing the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States stresses regional cooperation as part of the process of achieving African unity on the basis of human rights and fundamental freedoms and the promotion of social justice and stability,

*Wishing* to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States,

1. *Decides* to invite the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.